

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A data erasing device for erasing data recorded on a magnetic recording medium using a magnetic field generated from permanent magnets, comprising:

a main body case for housing a magnetic recording medium on an upper surface;

a magnetic field generating source formed by arranging two permanent magnets each having one of a north pole and a south pole above a ferromagnetic plate so that they have mutually attracting polarities;

a first transferring member that can move the magnetic field generating source in a predetermined direction inside the main body case; and

a second transferring member that can move a magnetic recording medium in a direction substantially perpendicular to a movement direction of the magnetic generating source on the upper surface of the main body case.

2. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 1, wherein:

the magnetic field generating source is provided in the first transferring member with the ferromagnetic plate underneath so that a generated magnetic field extends beyond the upper surface of the body case into the space above;

the first transferring member is stepwise and movably attached to the main body case with respect to the main body case so that the magnetic field is applied uniformly within a predetermined range at the upper surface of the main body case;

the second transferring member is constructed and comprises a frame that can house the magnetic recording medium in its central portion in a state where the magnetic recording medium is supported on the upper surface of the main body case, one end of the frame being rotatably fixed to the upper surface of the main body case by means of a rotation shaft; and

the second transferring member swings around the rotation shaft in a state where a magnetic recording medium is housed in the frame, and after the second transferring member has swung a predetermined number of times, the position of the first transferring member sequentially changes stepwise and at each step the second transferring member swings only the predetermined number of times.

3. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 2, wherein a handle for easily transporting the first transferring member is provided at an end of the first transferring member furthest from the main body case.

4. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 2, wherein grooves are provided at predetermined intervals on the upper surface of the first transferring member and a latch lever is provided in the main body case for engaging with the grooves and suspending movement of the first transferring member.

5. (Currently Amended) The data erasing device of Claim 2, wherein a stopper provided ~~[[he]]~~ the side of the first transferring member, and a guide groove is provided on an inner

surface of the main body case for receiving the stopper and defining a movement limit ~~[[he]]~~ the first transferring member.

6. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 2, wherein sizes of the permanent magnets are such that a length of a maximum magnetic flux thereof is less than a length of a data erasing limit of the magnetic recording medium housed in the frame, and a number and interval of the grooves are determined by the length of the maximum magnetic flux of the permanent magnets and the length of the data erasing limit of the magnetic recording medium.

7. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 6, wherein the magnetic recording medium is a magnetic disk device, the length of the maximum magnetic flux of the permanent magnets is set at one quarter of a diameter of magnetic disks incorporated in the magnetic disk device, the number of the grooves is four, and the interval between the grooves is equal to the length of the length of the maximum magnetic flux of the permanent magnets.

8. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 2, wherein a stopper is provided on the upper surface of the main body case defining a swing limit of the second transferring member.

9. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 2, wherein a clip is provided protruding from an end of the frame opposite the end at which the rotation shaft is provided, for easily swinging the frame.

10. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 2, wherein a shape of medium housing hole in a central portion of the frame housing the magnetic recording medium is a shape capable of housing a variety of types of magnetic recording media.

11. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 2, wherein the frame is exchangeable with another frame with a different shaped medium housing hole for housing another magnetic recording medium.

12. (Currently Amended) A data erasing device for erasing data recorded on a magnetic recording medium using a magnetic field generated from permanent magnets, comprising:

a first magnetic field generating source formed by arranging two permanent magnets each having one of a north pole and a south pole above a ferromagnetic plate so that they have mutually attracting polarities;

a main body case in which the magnetic field generating source is internally attached to the ferromagnetic plate with the ferromagnetic plate an upper surface side;

a path provided in the main body case perpendicular to the magnetic field generated by the magnetic field generating source, having a space capable of accommodating the entire magnetic recording medium; and

a tray that is of a size that, as well as being able to house the magnetic recording medium, can reciprocally move within the main body case along the path.

13. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 12, wherein the first magnetic field generating source is constructed to be movable in a direction perpendicular to a central axis of the path.

14. (Currently Amended) The data erasing device of Claim 12, wherein a second magnetic field generating source is provided in the main body case under the first magnetic field generating source facing the first magnetic field generating source across the path, ~~[[and]]~~ the second magnetic field generating source having magnets and a ferromagnetic plate, and wherein the magnetic field generating source having magnets and the ferromagnetic plate of the second magnetic field generating source are arranged planarly symmetric to the central axis of the path.

15. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 1, further comprising a portable carrying case, the carrying case comprising:

a lower case including handles in an upper portion thereof;

an upper case that can cover the lower case;

a cushioning material packed into the upper case and the lower case; and

an indented portion provided in the cushioning material inside the lower case, capable of housing the data erasing device.

16. (Original) The data erasing device of Claim 15, wherein a magnetic shield plate for preventing leakage to the outside of the carrying case of a magnetic flux generated from the data erasing device is provided in the upper case.

17. (New) A data erasing device for erasing data recorded on a magnetic recording medium using a magnetic field generated from permanent magnets, comprising:

- a main body case for housing a magnetic recording medium on an upper surface;

- a magnetic field generating source formed by arranging two permanent magnets each having one of a north pole and a south pole above a ferromagnetic plate so that they have mutually attracting polarities;

- a first transferring member that can move the magnetic field generating source in a predetermined direction inside the main body case; and

- a second transferring member that can move a magnetic recording medium in a direction substantially perpendicular to a movement direction of the magnetic generating source on the upper surface of the main body case, wherein:

- the magnetic field generating source is provided in the first transferring member with the ferromagnetic plate underneath so that a generated magnetic field extends beyond the upper surface of the body case into the space above;

- the first transferring member is stepwise and movably attached to the main body case with respect to the main body case so that the magnetic field is applied uniformly within a predetermined range at the upper surface of the main body case;

the second transferring member is constructed and comprises a frame that can house the magnetic recording medium in its central portion in a state where the magnetic recording medium is supported on the upper surface of the main body case, one end of the frame being rotatably fixed to the upper surface of the main body case by means of a rotation shaft; and

the second transferring member swings around the rotation shaft in a state where a magnetic recording medium is housed in the frame, and after the second transferring member has swung a predetermined number of times, the position of the first transferring member sequentially changes stepwise and at each step the second transferring member swings only the predetermined number of times.